

COLREGs Rule 15

Crossing Situation



When two power-driven vessels are crossing so as to involve risk of collision, the vessel which has the other on her own starboard side shall keep out of the way and shall, if the circumstances of the case admit, avoid crossing ahead of the other vessel.

Watch Vessels to Starboard

A vessel crossing from your **starboard side** has right of way.

The other vessel will be watching you carefully and it will be anxious until it knows you are taking the correct action.

Make life easy for both ships:

- Give way early – if you are the give-way vessel, then take early action so the other vessel knows your intentions.
- Avoid crossing ahead – if possible, always **go to starboard and go astern** of the other vessel.
- Be considerate – if the other vessel is hampered in any way, then your early action will reassure it.
- Be positive – especially if you are in any doubt.
- Do not forget your engine – you always have the option of using your engine as well as your helm. **Slowing down** will give both ships more time and more space.

Summary

Always give way to a ship you see crossing from your starboard side.

Global service
built around you